

NEW SOUTH WALES.

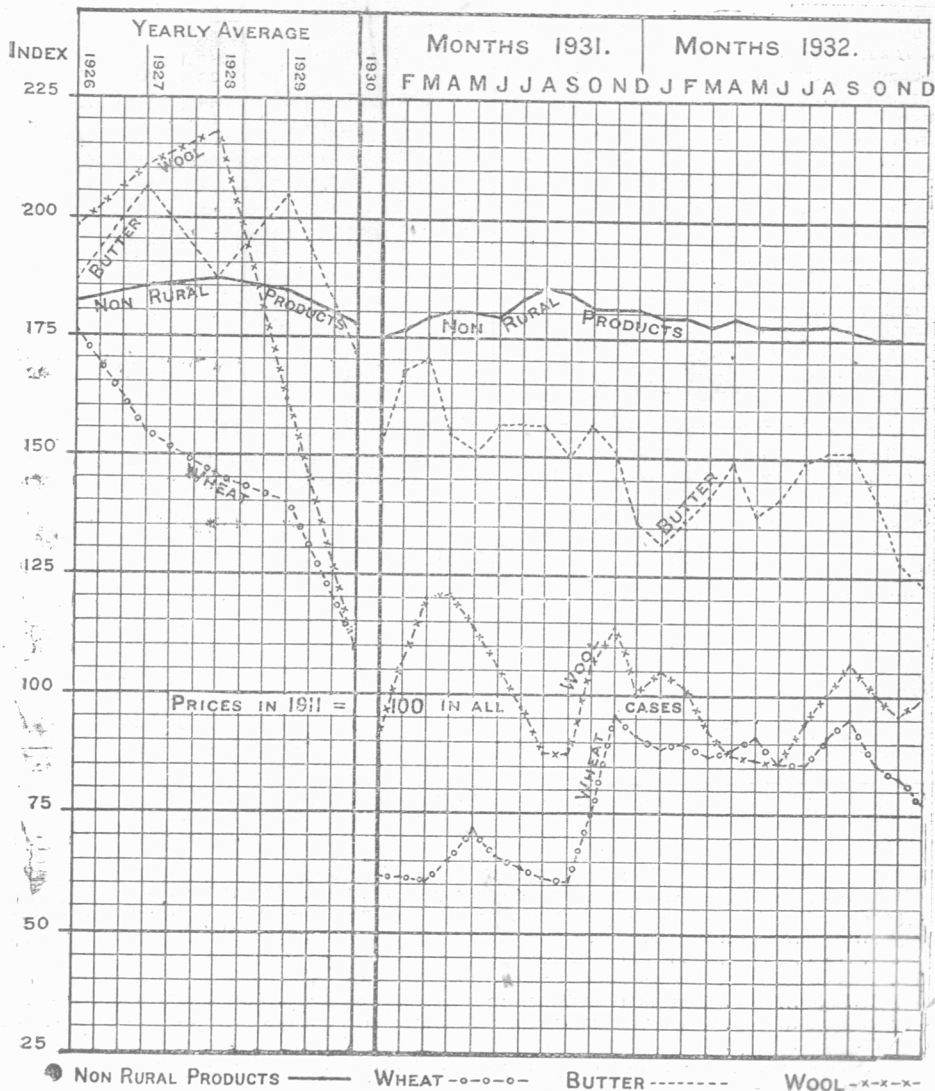
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 21. January 25, 1933.

Issued by T. Waites, Government Statistician.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 24 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

*93869—A

[Price, 3d.]

SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.
(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts.			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1932.													
January ...	38	14	8	2	17	41	11	8	13	23	49	8	28
February ...	34	73	113	223	91	37	66	126	99	44	88	73	59
March ...	85	181	202	103	152	99	191	193	180	15	66	129	43
April ...	151	116	200	153	157	111	132	216	181	108	66	86	94
May ...	61	37	46	130	57	60	36	42	43	96	101	65	93
June ...	45	50	63	43	59	44	51	86	72	52	52	14	47
July ...	77	80	100	74	85	76	76	95	87	44	134	119	77
August ...	39	90	166	93	101	45	96	160	129	32	61	157	55
September ...	239	197	96	106	166	241	183	103	141	213	274	220	230
October ...	97	63	47	25	63	109	69	41	57	99	79	91	93
November ...	126	127	101	111	117	115	139	99	112	101	113	143	110
December ...	51	61	60	31	54	64	66	55	59	29	42	104	42
Year 1932 ...	82	89	101	89	91	75	92	102	96	64	91	95	75
Year 1931 ...	127	130	137	127	131	124	130	144	138	117	111	96	113

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

Except in the far south-western sheep districts and in isolated patches the rainfall of 1932 was generally below the average though the deficiency was not great except in the northern districts. Drought conditions prevailed on the North Coast.

2. WOOL.

The total arrivals of wool in the first six months of the current season are 3 per cent. greater than in the corresponding period of 1931 and it is anticipated that the total production (1932-33) will be slightly greater than in 1931-32. Satisfactory clearances are being made at auctions.

SYDNEY WOOL SALES.

Period.	Number of bales sold.			Amount realised for wool sold.		
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Six months ended 31st December* ...	481,230	563,325	600,160	£ 5,223,628	£ 6,290,589	£ 6,821,544
Number of Bales Received into Store.						
During Month.			Total for Season to end of Month.			
July ...	24,787	31,672	52,218	24,787	31,672	52,218
August ...	131,860	203,140	240,365	156,647	234,812	292,583
September ...	308,429	332,320	283,411	465,076	567,132	575,994
October ...	254,369	291,250	286,955	719,445	858,382	862,949
November ...	169,343	180,321	177,429	888,788	1,038,703	1,040,378
December ...	53,623	64,342	52,967	942,411	1,103,045	1,093,345
Number of Bales in Store Unsold.						
31st December ...	467,495	555,398	538,134	...	...	...

* Including carry over from previous season.

The course of wool prices is shown in Table 24.

3. WHEAT.

The area sown with wheat for 1932-33 was 4,702,500 acres, including 4,388,700 acres for grain. On the basis of conditions existing on 10th November, 1932, the Director of Marketing issued a final forecast that the crop for 1932-33 would be 65,000,000 bushels. On present indications he anticipates that this will be exceeded.

WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM NEW SOUTH WALES (DIRECT),

Month.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	Bushels of Wheat.			Tons of Flour.		
August ...	925,942	793,757	38,900	12,807	17,405	14,389
September ...	653,925	567,378	1,499,403	13,906	13,972	20,895
October ...	1,720,667	578,468	1,514,257	13,742	20,260	20,481
November ...	706,800	1,148,855	1,189,420	13,991	20,584	14,300
December ...	2,930,397	3,470,737	5,895,225	13,922	22,404	25,331

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

	Bushels of Wheat (Equivalent).			Value £.		
January ...	509,066	3,387,859	5,830,820	122,541	432,109	986,683
February ...	528,378	4,226,878	6,273,300	126,663	447,882	1,013,169
March ...	610,739	8,209,881	4,674,823	135,683	923,968	735,213
April ...	558,079	4,712,172	2,664,881	120,272	525,948	433,343
May ...	654,098	3,967,911	2,319,877	142,820	489,707	373,318
June ...	560,129	4,018,877	785,799	118,291	449,064	120,914
July ...	1,007,206	4,533,184	1,539,648	196,732	474,846	237,894
August ...	1,535,809	1,622,557	724,117	296,200	190,422	102,039
September ...	1,316,115	1,232,695	2,494,393	229,313	134,243	426,193
October ...	2,375,031	1,543,213	2,489,533	376,570	168,754	406,926
November ...	1,373,037	2,129,025	1,870,351	205,221	288,826	281,642
December ...	3,593,337	4,537,605	7,101,449	487,866	737,355	1,039,656

On 14th January, 1933, the quantity of new season's wheat grain stored in silos and on railway premises was 38,900,000 bushels. Stocks of grain and flour as at the end of November, 1932, appear to have been lower than at any time in the past five years.

The course of wheat prices is shown in Table 24.

4. BUTTER.

The bountiful rains of September and excellent following rains resulted in the largest spring production and export on record, but deficient rains caused a diminution in December.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).		Butter exported oversea (New South Wales).			
	1931.	1932.	Quantity.		Value.	
			1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
	Thousand lb.		Thousand lb.		£	£
Year ended 31st Decem- ber.	117,592	120,804*	37,418	42,552	2,032,374	2,015,627
January ...	9,913	13,879	2,883	7,901	144,211	374,938
February ...	10,662	11,581	3,855	5,092	230,461	245,812
March ...	12,384	9,804	5,437	3,936	313,396	197,188
April ...	10,813	9,999	4,343	1,708	235,051	91,360
May ...	9,128	8,991	2,411	2,550	128,752	118,755
June ...	7,704	7,205	1,120	906	61,667	43,675
July ...	6,590	6,013	1,245	786	67,366	39,248
August ...	6,771	6,494	1,295	1,037	68,471	53,246
September ...	7,829	7,738	2,117	1,463	113,435	75,544
October ...	9,743	12,394	2,971	3,700	167,502	195,195
November ...	11,495	13,706	3,669	6,804	197,853	308,524
December ...	14,560	13,000*	6,072	6,669	304,209	272,102

The course of butter prices is shown in Table 24.

* Estimated.

5. COAL.

In the absence of monthly records of production, the best available indications of trends in the industry are provided by railway haulings and exports:—

Month.	Coal Hauled by Government Railways.†			Coal Exported from New South Wales.†	
	1928.	1931.	1932.	1931.	1932.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
July	585,437	410,852	417,092	213,745	198,794
August	568,620	312,314	369,320	187,376	182,229
September	428,865	368,864	414,916	198,506	192,443
October	498,005	351,318	370,451	180,000	217,000*
November	575,354	349,895	433,072	202,657	242,000*
December	450,722	336,539	440,153	185,332	193,000*
Total, twelve months ended December	6,198,971	4,220,892	4,686,756	2,341,828	2,370,000*

* Approximate.

† Cargo and bunker, Oversea and Interstate.

‡ Excludes coal used by the Railway Department and coal shipped or used in New South Wales without being hauled over Government railways.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.			Employees.			Weekly Salaries and Wages.		
	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1930.	1931.	1932.
	Thousand £.			Hundreds.			Hundred £.		
January	2,553	1,982	1,822	180	135	137	776	542	497
February	2,630	1,993	2,108	179	140	141	769	535	519
March	2,607	1,977	2,273	174	142	144	732	539	535
April	2,351	1,867	2,019	167	140	144	697	531	529
May... ..	2,384	1,929	1,989	162	137	142	667	526	523
June	2,130	1,879	1,823	159	137	139	638	506	501
July... ..	2,312	1,986	1,887	153	135	142	620	516	520
August	2,071	1,845	2,058	152	136	150	598	514	554
September	2,131	1,889	2,116	152	140	155	566	519	559
October	2,208	1,914	2,042	150	142	156	555	539	556
November	2,204	2,050	2,312	149	142	156	553	528	561
December	2,222	2,265	...	141	142	...	596	527	...
Average (January-November) ...	2,326	1,937	2,041	162	139	146	652	527	532

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

PERMITS TO ERECT NEW BUILDINGS.

	Total Value for Year ended 31st December.			Country Municipalities (December Quarter).		Suburbs (Month of November).		Suburbs (Month of December).	
	City.†	Suburbs.	Country.‡	No.	Value of Buildings.	No.	Value of Buildings.	No.	Value of Buildings.
	£	£	£		£		£		£
1930	*	2,356,053	1,852,921	265	146,062	69	71,746	69	56,533
1931	668,360	454,611	611,772	169	81,925	32	27,984	16	13,920
1932	193,270	657,637	*	*	*	76	80,380	58	65,113

* Not available.

† New buildings and additions. Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area.

‡ Municipalities and seven

Figures as to permits to erect new buildings show in advance the trend in the building industry. Comparative figures for previous months, quarters and years, are shown on page 21 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for September Quarter, 1932.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

To and from New South Wales direct Oversea.

	Month of December.		Six Months ended 31st December.	
	Imports.	Exports.*	Imports.	Exports.*
1930	£ 2,444,499	£ 2,895,976	£ 16,293,037	£ 14,842,804
1931	1,475,826	3,508,206	8,997,829	16,014,473
1932	1,821,274	3,699,222	12,336,371	16,153,340

* Excluding gold specie and gold bar, dust, etc.

The values of imports represent the cost f.o.b. port of export plus 10 per cent., and are recorded in *English currency*. The values of exports are the values in the principal markets of New South Wales, less bonuses on butter, &c., and are recorded in *Australian currency*.

9. WHOLESALE TRADE.

AMOUNT of Recorded Sales (New South Wales) under Sales Tax Act.

Month.	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.	Month.	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.
1931.		Million £		1932.		Million £	
January ...	4.20	5.13	9.33	January ...	4.53	5.36	9.89
February ...	4.56	5.15	9.71	February ...	4.76	4.76	9.52
March ...	4.82	4.82	9.64	March ...	5.05	4.50	9.55
April ...	5.27	6.10	11.37	April ...	5.39	4.78	10.17
May ...	5.16	4.65	9.81	May ...	5.03	5.14	10.17
June ...	5.64	5.07	10.71	June ...	4.67	4.94	9.61
July ...	4.63	5.02	9.65	July ...	4.66	5.43	10.09
August ...	4.68	4.42	9.10	August ...	5.01	5.21	10.22
September ...	4.81	5.64	10.45	September ...	5.42	5.68	11.10
October ...	4.84	5.63	10.47	October ...	5.17	5.96	11.13
November ...	4.80	5.71	10.51	November ...	5.25	5.80	11.05
December ...	4.91	6.56	11.47				

The amounts of sales of taxable goods represent the approximate trend of wholesale trade in local and imported secondary products. An increased rate of tax was imposed on 11th July, 1931, and a considerable number of commodities was exempt from tax as from 1st September, 1932. The total sales for the eleven months ended November, 1932, were £112,500,000, compared with £110,750,000 in the corresponding period of 1931.

10. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from a number of large city stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for certain months of 1932 compared with corresponding months of 1931:—

Month.	Net Sales. (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.
Percentage increase (+) or decrease (—).				
June	(—) 3.9	(—) 7.3	(—) 8.1	(+) 5.4
July	(+) 9.8	(—) 9.8	(+) 1.3	(+) 10.0
August	(+) 13.9	(—) 10.4	(+) 13.5	(+) 8.0
September	(+) 16.8*	(—) 8.0	(+) 9.0	(+) 11.0
October	(—) 1.6*	(—) 6.8	(—) 3.5	(+) 10.5
November	(+) 16.4	(—) 4.8	.....	.....

* September, 1932, and October, 1931, included five Fridays. After adjustment on this account the movement of sales was approximately for September (+) 13 and for October (+) 5.0 per cent.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

11. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were :—

	Month of November.			Five months ended 30th November.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
1930 ...	£ 1,196,191	£ 989,228	£ 206,963	£ 6,642,439	£ 5,326,276	£ 1,316,163
1931 ...	1,204,719	1,016,686	188,033	6,298,898	5,076,627	1,222,271
1932 ...	1,253,872	906,399	347,473	6,379,079	4,854,656	1,524,423

* Interest and Sinking Fund on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1931-32 was £6,519,217, exclusive of £1,304,600 exchange.

	Month of November.		Five Months ended 30th November.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1930 ...	113,907	10,461	603,987	54,188
1931 ...	123,231	10,805	587,257	50,465
1932 ...	127,920	10,821	564,642	55,779

* Goods (including wayleave) and live stock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

12. TRAMWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES TRAMWAYS.

	Sydney and Suburbs.			Newcastle and Suburbs.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried.	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers Carried.
Year ended 30th June,	£	£		£	£	
1932 ...	3,117,334	265,885	266,812,934	187,888	(—) 7,195	17,497,934
October§ ...	226,287	9,515	20,023,810	14,663	(—) 1,044	1,381,753
November ...	264,651	21,781	23,020,704	15,724	(—) 714	1,493,809
December ...	298,783	47,300	25,981,876	18,996	2,041	1,784,276
1932.						
January ...	303,428	51,819	24,257,242	17,166	1,687	1,635,351
February ...	271,153	50,992	23,686,060	17,050	2,006	1,551,361
March ...	329,242	82,055	27,114,138†	17,005	809	1,587,035
April ...	276,252	26,950	22,866,406†	16,848	292	1,507,964
May ...	268,355	27,137	22,098,481†	17,144	1,332	1,583,807
June ...	238,773	(—) 63,241	20,955,818†	16,207	(—) 1,103	1,491,710
July ...	260,930	12,203	21,576,370†	17,007	3,329	1,566,563
August ...	260,090	25,798	21,616,973†	16,872	1,868	1,553,802
September ...	258,113	41,310	21,275,290†	16,514	2,364	1,514,212
October† ...	234,904	14,121	22,196,205†	17,706	3,676	1,599,337
November ...	246,400	34,497	22,772,571†	17,186	3,788	1,585,162
December ...	273,584	†	†	19,278	†	†

* Interest and Sinking Fund on loan capital are not included as working expenses. The amount of interest chargeable against the tramways in 1931-32 was £412,700, exclusive of exchange. (—) Denotes excess of working expenses over earnings. † Not available. ‡ Tram fares in Metropolitan Area were reduced as from 1st October, 1932. § Omnibus services in Metropolitan Area were curtailed as from 31st October, 1931. †† Revised to exclude passengers carried on Sydney Harbour Bridge.

13. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.), AS AT VARIOUS DATES.

Class.	30th June—			30th September, 1932.	31st October, 1932.	30th November, 1932.	31st December, 1932.
	1930.	1931.	1932.				
Cars	169,495	154,096	143,970	144,229	144,379	144,522	146,582
Lorries and Vans	45,309	41,788	38,618	39,169	39,483	40,094	40,890
Cycles	29,410	25,453	22,741	22,803	22,742	22,740	22,808
Buses	640	676	362	351	346	346	360
Cabs	1,340	1,078	1,070	1,068	1,069	1,066	1,068

Average Weekly Number of New Cars Registered.*

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1930 ...	394	361	285	200	199	196	181	183	135	141	141	132
1931 ...	78	83	69	88	59	55	47	45	45	55	60	53
1932 ...	55	61	63	58	55	53	61	71	67	93	96	122†

* Represents average for four weeks ending on first Tuesday in succeeding month.

† Average for 3½ weeks ended 30th.

‡ Increase in registrations in December was mainly due to change of system of registration.

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

14. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

Date.	Amount of Deposits.	Date.	Amount of Deposits.
1929—June 30	£ 85,727,514	1932—January 31	£ 72,068,911*
1930—June 30	82,465,430	February 29	71,259,468*
September 30	78,552,912	March 31	70,766,850
December 31	73,406,775	April 30	69,678,291*
1931—March 31	70,773,167	May 31	69,490,437*
June 30	69,810,769	June 30	71,647,869†
July 31	69,506,448	July 31	71,172,593*
August 31	70,373,579	August 31	71,082,991*
September 30	71,448,529	September 30	70,906,662
December 31	72,503,441	October 31	70,774,187*
		November 30	70,584,243*

* Approximate.

† Includes accrued interest.

15. TRADING BANKS—ADVANCES AND DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).

TOTAL (including Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and including Government Business).

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Advances, &c., and Government Securities.	Excess of Advances over Deposits, &c.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1930	126,094	146,760	20,666
1931	118,255	131,150	12,895
1932	†	†	†

16. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government Deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

December Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances, &c.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.	Ratio of Advances to Deposits.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.			
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	per cent.
1930	65,949	37,616	103,565	104,656	1,091	101·1
1931	59,591	36,105	95,696	95,277	*419	99·6
1932	59,552	35,089	94,641	93,284	*1,357	98·6

* Denotes excess of Deposits.

† Not available.

17. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1929.	1930.	1931.*	1932.*	1929.	1930.	1931.*	1932.*
	Amount—Million £				Index Numbers.			
January	86·2	78·2	67·4	46·7†	1038	990	809	622†
February	88·1	75·5	63·8	47·3†	1047	958	808	617†
March	89·8	83·7	69·9	42·7†	1058	950	807	§
April	89·7	68·6	62·4	43·5†	1093	926	811	§
May	89·7	76·7	54·0	46·1†	1087	920	768	§
June	84·8	71·7	57·1	51·8†	1089	893	741	655†
July	88·8	73·7	48·9	46·8†	1061	895	663	631†
August	84·1	58·4	45·5	46·0†	1078	850	648	634†
September	78·7	61·7	54·6	51·3†	1073	825	643	646†
October	89·1	71·5	56·0	53·5†	1057	802	655	664†
November	85·5	65·8	50·6†	55·3†	1026	806	658†	680†
December	88·9	86·8	52·9†	57·7†	1014	803	635†	680†
Year	1,043·3	872·4	683·1†	588·7†	...	...	...	...

* Adjusted by elimination of abnormal transactions on account of Governments.

† Unadjusted on account of amalgamation.

‡ Adjusted on account of amalgamation—Subject to revision.

§ State Government banking transactions suspended. Index not ascertainable.

Inter-bank clearings are regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the general volume of business transactions provided they are considered in conjunction with changes in price levels.

The index represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926–1930. This average is represented by 1,000 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels.

18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

			Month of December.		Year ended 31st December.	
			Consideration of Sales.	Amount of Mortgages.	Consideration of Sales.	Amount of Mortgages.
			£	£	£	£
1930	...	...	1,244,669	2,237,199	26,109,921*	35,937,786
1931	...	...	754,745	1,093,987	13,686,476	18,790,164
1932	...	...	566,349	584,939	12,241,856	8,642,026

* Approximate.

The decrease is partly due to a lower level of values. Comparative figures for individual months are shown in Table 46 of the Statistical Bulletin of New South Wales for September quarter, 1932.

19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

			Month of December.			Year ended 31st December.		
			Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
			£	£	£	£	£	£
1930	...	...	83,292	97,673	187,044	4,737,232	3,279,949	3,137,084
1931	...	...	80,766	95,636	276,733	5,347,897	3,568,911	2,686,070
1932	...	...	65,995	128,063	83,387	4,826,183	2,458,365	1,866,868

The amounts involved in liens amounted to £9,151,416 for the year ended 31st December, 1932, compared with £11,602,878 for 1931.

The numbers involved in liens and mortgages were as follow:—

Year ended 31st December.			Number of Crop Liens.	Number of Sheep subject to Liens on Wool.*	Number of Livestock under Mortgage.		
					Sheep.*	Cattle.	Horses.
1930	...	...	13,542	9,643,363	6,479,756	98,341	19,746
1931	...	...	12,377	11,380,440	9,610,967	122,467	25,734
1932	...	...	10,356	10,150,291	9,247,284	137,185	18,691

* In many cases sheep are included under both headings.

20. BANKRUPTCIES.

Sequestrations and Deeds of Arrangement, New South Wales.

Year.			Month of December.		Year ended 31st December.	
			Number.	Liabilities.*	Number.	Liabilities.*
				£		£
1930	...	...	121	277,982	1,351	2,686,702
1931	...	...	71	120,735	1,295	2,876,983
1932	...	...	44	75,097	647	1,515,895

* Gross liabilities before deducting assets.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

21. UNEMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

	February.	May.	August.	November.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1929 ...	9·7	10·0	12·4	13·8
1930 ...	16·3	21·0	23·3	26·3
1931 ...	29·2	30·7	31·6	31·5
1932 ...	31·8	33·2	33·0	31·9

The above figures are compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician from returns supplied by Trade Unions, and represent the proportion of unemployed members to total membership in unions reporting.

AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF WAGES PAID AND INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT.

Data under these headings are now being compiled. Progress tabulations, including nearly 100 of the larger factories, indicate that there were 39,045 employees on the pay sheets in the middle week of November, 1932, compared with 33,862 in the corresponding week of 1931. The increase occurred mainly in the iron, steel, engineering, and clothing trades. The volume of employment in retail trades is indicated in Table 10. The numbers employed in the principal business and industrial activities of the Government (exclusive of special relief works) were practically unchanged over the period.

22. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and the group averages are the means of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. It represents the ratio of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values.

Par Value of Shares = 100.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
July, 1929...	178·8	172·9	129·9	158·8	231·6	169·4	168·8
July, 1930...	112·5	102·8	109·6	87·9	172·6	112·6	111·2
1931.							
January ...	81·2	66·7	90·8	60·2	134·6	81·4	85·3
July ...	77·3	65·9	90·8	79·3	119·0	79·5	83·5
September§	72·3	60·2	87·9	75·2	121·3	74·4	77·2
1932.							
January ...	94·2	75·5	110·0	95·2	158·8	93·3	100·9
February ...	92·6	75·3	111·9	92·0	154·5	92·3	99·0
March ...	90·3	73·9	105·1	88·8	148·2	89·5	95·5
April ...	90·0	72·4	104·6	87·5	139·5	87·8	94·4
May ...	91·9	74·8	104·7	89·3	132·3	88·5	95·3
June ...	96·3	77·8	109·0	87·3	145·6	92·2	99·4
July ...	100·0	78·0	112·1	94·9	152·0	95·3	102·1
August ...	106·1	83·2	118·6	106·1	155·2	100·6	108·4
September	114·8	89·4	125·6	114·6	163·8	107·6	116·3
October ...	121·6	95·9	129·4	115·9	174·6	113·5	121·5
November	120·6	93·2	130·4	108·8	172·1	111·4	118·9
December ...	114·0	90·8	132·6	102·9	167·8	107·5	115·2

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies.

§ The lowest point of the index was reached in September, 1931.

23. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).
(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
January	1,000	1,031	1,013	956	929
February	1,000	1,044	981	974	949
March	1,000	1,018	1,011	971	952
April	1,000	1,036	1,004	960	956
May	1,000	1,055	1,000	944	951
June	1,000	1,035	999	966	987
July	1,000	1,052	987	960	967
August	1,000	1,061	998	940	973
September	1,000	1,085	979	936	969
October	1,000	1,093	972	934	965
November	1,000	1,093	961	946	972
December	1,000	1,043	983	973	990
Average (12 months)	1,000	1,054	991	955	963

24. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911=100 in all cases.

Date.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter.	Non- Rural.‡	All Com- modities.	Average Rates of Exchange.†		
						Australia on London.	London on New York.	Australia on New York.
1911*	100	100	100	100	100	100	...	...
1929*	162	140	204	184	186	102	100	102
1930*	109	110	172	178	170	100	100	106
1931*	105	70	154	180	155	128	109	140
1932*	96	88	140	...	...	125	139	174
1931—September**	88	61	150	184	154	130	106	138
1932—January ...	105	89	132	179	154	125	142	178
February ...	102	90	136	179	154	125	141	176
March ...	93	88	142	178	152	125	134	168
April ...	88	89	149	179	155	125	130	163
May ...	87	91	138	178	152	125	132	165
June ...	86	86	141	178	152	125	133	166
July ...	94	86	149	178	152	125	137	171
August ...	100	92	151	178	153	125	140	174
September...	107	95	151	177	153	125	140	175
October ...	100	86	141	175	152	125	143	179
November ...	96	83	128	175	149	125	148	185
December ...	99	77	123	175	148	125	149	185

* Average for year.

† Approximate.

‡ Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for all commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.
All prices are in Australian currency.

25. OVERSEA WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS.

	1931.				1932.											
	Sep.*	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Great Britain— Board of Trade (1924 = 100)	59.7	62.8	64.0	63.7	63.7	63.4	63.0	61.6	60.6	59.0	58.8	59.9	61.4	60.8	60.8	60.8
United States— Irving Fisher (1926 = 100)	68.7	68.3	68.3	67.0	65.0	63.7	63.1	62.2	61.0	59.6	60.4	61.8	62.7	61.1	60.3	59.4†

* Gold standard suspended by Great Britain 21st September, 1931.

† Two weeks.

26. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Spot Prices of Metals (London Exchange, English Currency).

Date.	Silver (Standard).	Lead.	Spelter.	Tin (Standard).	Copper (Standard).
	per oz.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.	per ton.
1932.	s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
January	1 7·62	15 2 1	14 12 6	140 5 7	39 10 1
February	1 7·57	14 11 4	14 1 7	139 4 8	36 19 8
March	1 6·34	12 9 9	12 16 5	129 18 3	33 1 9
April	1 4·92	11 7 3	11 16 3	109 0 11	29 19 11
May	1 4·87	10 17 1	12 11 2	122 7 6	28 12 0
June	1 4·84	9 15 0	11 14 2	114 12 11	26 18 4
July	1 4·93	9 19 8	11 15 6	125 19 6	26 2 6
August	1 6·00	11 9 5	13 14 5	142 2 5	31 9 1
September	1 6·00	13 4 9	15 10 9	152 16 3	35 0 8
October	1 5·81	12 1 3	15 0 1	151 7 6	31 18 8
November	1 6·10	12 4 8	15 8 0	153 13 4	32 0 4
December	1 5·11	11 6 10	15 5 7	149 17 10	29 2 8
January (1st to 12th) ...	1 4·75	10 8 7	14 13 3	145 10 0	28 15 4

27. SUMMARY.

The following Table provides some indication of trends in 1932 in respect of the principal activities for which it is possible to indicate general trends of monthly figures :—

Refer to Table No. ...	17	9	6	5	7	11	23	12
Month.	Index of Bank Clearings.	Value of Goods sold at Wholesale.	Value of Goods sold by certain Factories.	Quantity of Coal Hauled by Railways.	Value of City and Suburban Building Permits. (d).	Number of Passengers Journeys on Railways.	Index of Quantity of Gas and Electricity Consumed.	Tramway Revenue.
1932.		£ (b)	£ (b)	tons (a)	£ (a)	(c)		£(a)
January	622	989	182	326	81	103	929	321
February	617	952	211	371	69	107	949	288
March ... ..	...*	955	227	385	129	119	952	346
April ... ..	...*	1,017	202	378	78	110	956	293
May ... ..	...*	1,017	199	386	139	116	951	285
June	655	961	182	396	78	111	987	255
July	631	1,009	189	417	111	110	967	278
August	634	1,022	206	369	134	113	973	277
September	646	1,110	212	415	110	108	969	275
October	664	1,113	204	370	123	119	965	253
November	680	1,105	231	433	124	108	972	264
December	680	...	...	440	140	...	990	293

(a) Thousands. (b) Ten thousands. (c) Hundred thousands. (d) New buildings and additions. *Not available.

The general position in regard to primary industries might be gauged by reference to tables 1 to 4, and to the prices shown in the graph on page 1, and in table 24.

NOTICE.

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As space will not permit of repetition of matter, copies should be filed for reference.

Acknowledgment is made of the ready help given by numerous private organisations and businesses, and by various Government Departments in providing data for tables contained in this summary.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics, 36 Young-street, Sydney.
25th January, 1933.